

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1968
INFO USINT HAVANA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT CU HU
SUBJECT: HAVANA YOUTH FESTIVAL

SUMMARY: WFDY CLAIMS 16,000 WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE HAVANA
YOUTH FESTIVAL.

1. THE PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH
(WFDY), ERNESTO OTTONE FERNANDEZ, AND WFDY SECRETARY-GENERAL,
MIKLOS BARABAS, GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE BUDAPEST HEAD-
QUARTERS OF THE WFDY JULY 14, ON THE UPCOMING 11TH WORLD
FESTIVAL OF STUDENTS AND YOUTH, TO BE HELD AT HAVANA JULY 28-
AUG 5.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, THE PRESS BRIEFING CONTAINED
LITTLE INFORMATION AND MUCH RHETORIC. FERNANDEZ CLAIMED THAT
THE FESTIVAL WILL BE THE LARGEST EVER, INVOLVING 16,000 PARTI-
CIPANTS, INCLUDING DELEGATES FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, SOCIAL
DEMOCRATS, SOCIALISTS, RADICALS, AND OTHERS. HE TRACED THE
PAST HISTORY OF THESE YOUTH FESTIVALS, NOTING PARTICULARLY
NATIONAL FESTIVALS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE RECENTLY IN
ORDER TO PREPARE FOR THE WORLD FESTIVAL. HE
MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO A RECENT FESTIVAL IN
GUATEMALA WHICH ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED 30,000 YOUTH.
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3. BARABAS SPOKE ABOUT THE PROGRAM OF THE WFDY FOLLOW-
ING THE HAVANA MEETING. EARLY IN 1979 THE WFDY WILL
PARTICIPATE IN A WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE AGAINST APAR-
THEID. IT WILL ALSO EXPRESS ITS SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE
FORCES SEEKING A JUST SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST,
AND WILL ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF ESTABLISHING A MORE FAIR

SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS.
KAISER

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